

Message Text

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42

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAJ-01 ACDA-05

OMB-01 /060 W

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P R 261251Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 851

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

USCINCEUR

USIA WASHDC

USMISSION NATO

USMISSING U UN

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES

CINCUSAFE

CINCUSNAVEUR

USNMR SHAPE

SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 7328

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, MARR, TU, US

SUBJ: STATEMENTS CONNECTING EMBARGO VOTE TO TURKISH ELECTIONS

1. THE TURKISH PRESS HAS GIVEN PROMINENT AND UNFAVORABLE
TREATMENT TO REPORTS OF REMARKS BY U.S. CONGRESSMEN
CONNECTING THE TIMING OF THE HOUSE VOTE ON LIFTING THE ARMS
EMBARGO WITH TURKEY'S OCTOBER 12 ELECTIONS FOR ONE THIRD OF
THE SENATE. ON SEPTEMBER 26, LEADING NEWSPAPERS FRONT PAGED
A REPORT THAT REPRESENTATIVE FINDLEY HAD SAID IN CONNECTION WITH
THE RULES COMMITTEE'S RECENT ACTION: "I EXPECT THE BILL (PARTIALLY
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LIFTING THE EMBARGO) WILL AFFECT THE TURKISH ELECTION CONTRUCTIVELY

...CONGRESS'S DECISION CAN BE A VERY IMPORTANT FACTOR... IF WE LIFT THE EMBARGO, WE MUST DO SO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE." MILLIYET REPORTED THAT REPRESENTATIVE BRADEMÁS HAD SAID IN AN INTERVIEW THAT HE WAS SHOCKED THAT ADMINISTRATION SUPPORTERS HAD MADE AN ISSUE OF THE TURKISH ELECTIONS.

2. MILLIYET EDITOR ABDI IPEKCI, IN A SIGNED EDITORIAL SEPTEMBER 26 UNDER THE HEADLINE "THE AMERICAN EMBARGO AND THE OCTOBER 12 ELECTIONS", ASKED "DO THOSE WHO ESTABLISH A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE EMBARGO AND TURKEY'S ELECTIONS FOR A 'BENEFICIAL INFLUENCE' CARRY ON THIS ACTIVITY OF THEMSELVES OR BECAUSE OF ENCOURAGEMENT BY THE FORD ADMINISTRATION? IF THE SECOND POSSIBILITY IS CORRECT, IS THE FORD GOVT GIVING THIS ENCOURAGEMENT AT THE REQUEST OF THE DEMIREL GOVT?...WHAT IS KNOWN IS THAT THIS IDEA, PUT FORWARD FIRST BY (NATO SEC GEN) LUNS AND THEN BY AMERICAN CONGRESSMEN, WILL BOTH BOTH TURKISH AND AMERICAN PUBLIC OPINION." IPEKCI CONCLUDED THAT SOME CONGRESSMEN COULD BE NEGATIVELY AFFECTED AND THAT A FURTHER DELAY IN LIFTING THE EMBARGO COULD RESULT.

3. THE DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT STATEMENTS BY NATO SEC GEN LUNS RELATING THE EMBARGO VOTE TO THE ELECTIONS, WHICH THE ABOVE EDITORIAL REFERS TO, DREW A STRONG REACTION FROM BOTH OPPOSITION LEADER ECEVIT AND PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL (ANKARA 7060 AND 7136).

4. COMMENT: WHILE RECOGNIZING THAT THERE ISN'T MUCH THE

EXECUTIVE BRANCH CAN DO TO PREVENT SUCH STATEMENTS BY CONGRESSMEN, WE WISH TO EMPHASIZE THAT REMARKS OF THIS KIND CAN ONLY DO DAMAGE TO OUR RELATIONS WITH TURKEY'S MAJOR POLITICAL PARTIES, JRVL ACCUSATIONS THAT THE US IS ATTEMPTING TO INFLUENCE THE ELECTIONS, AND DETRACT FROM WHATEVER FAVORABLE IMPACT THE PASSAGE OF S.2230 MAY PRODUCE IN TURKEY. THE LINE WE ARE TAKING HERE IN CONTACTS WITH THE POLITICAL PARTIES AND THE PRESS IS THAT THE EMBARGO HAS OBVIOUSLY BEEN REPUGNANT TO ALL POLITICAL PARTIES AND ALL OF THESE

HAVE ALWAYS WISHED ITS REPEAL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WE ARE MAKING THE POINT THAT CERTAIN GREEK INTERESTS ARE PRESSING FOR DELAY AND THAT IN RESISTING THESE PRESSURES WE ASSUME WE ARE ACTING
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CONSISTENTLY WITH THE DESIRES OF ALL POLITICAL PARTIES IN TURKEY.
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